

09/17/03
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: T. SAITO et al
Serial No. 09/482,226
Filed: January 13, 2000

Group Art Unit: 3623
Examiner: A. Robinson-Boyce
For: WORKFLOW METHOD AND SYSTEM THEREFOR

REQUEST FOR CONTINUATION APPLICATION
UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a request for filing a continuation application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/482,226, filed on January 13, 2000, entitled WORKFLOW METHOD AND SYSTEM THEREFOR, by all of the inventors named in the prior application.

1. Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.

2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION
LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW

3. A Credit Card Payment Form including the amount of \$1254.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

4. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

5. New drawings are enclosed, ten (10) sheets, Figs. 1-17.

6. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

John R. Mattingly, Registration No. 30,293
Jeffrey M. Ketchum, Registration No. 31,174
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There is a change in the correspondence address.

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Please associate this application with Customer No. 24956.

7. The prior application is assigned to Hitachi, Ltd.

8. Priority of the following Japanese patent application is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

No. 6-262208, filed October 26, 1994.

The certified priority document has been filed in parent application, Serial No. 08/546,912.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present continuation application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 09/482,026, as originally filed on January 13, 2000.

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Attorney of Record

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Date: September 17, 2003